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PATENTS, TRADEMARKS
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LICENSING AND
LITIGATION

February 3, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application
Title: Marine Safety Ladder Apparatus
Inventor: Raymond N. Laymance
Docket No. RL101

EXPRESS MAIL #ER480557048US

SIR:

Enclosed for filing please find the following:

1. Nonprovisional Patent Application that claims the benefit of Provisional Serial No. 60/444,572 filed February 3, 2003, including Declaration and Power of Attorney, specification (23 pages), claims (4 pages), abstract (1 page);
2. Nine (9) sheets of drawings (Figs. 1 – 12);
3. Nonpublication Request Under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i);
4. Our check (#7029) in the amount of \$385 in full payment of the filing fee; and
5. Return postal card.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27 applicant hereby asserts small entity status.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping and returning the enclosed post card. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

William E. Noonan
WEN/pe

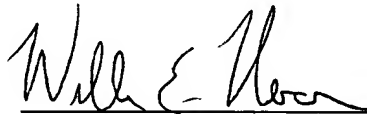


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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 3rd day of February, 2004.



William E. Noonan

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**NONPUBLICATION REQUEST
UNDER
35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)**

First Named Inventor

Raymond N. Laymance

Title

Marine Safety Ladder Apparatus

Attorney Docket Number

RL101

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

2-3-04

Date



Signature

(239) 481-0900

Telephone number

William E. Noonan

Typed or printed name

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application **upon filing**.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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